

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05306 241632Z

63

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /026 W

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R 241348Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2125

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5306

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, OREP, US, UR, SB, GE, GW, FR, UK

SUBJECT: WARSAW-BERLIN FLIGHT BY CODEL O'NEILL

REF: USBERLIN 0339

1. THE EMBASSY SUPPORTS U.S. MISSION BERLIN'S RECOMMENDATION THAT THE AIRCRAFT FOR CODEL O'NEILL LAND AT TEMPELHOF OR TEGEL IN WEST BERLIN RATHER THAN AT SCHOENEFELD IN EAST GERMANY. FROM OUR VIEWPOINT, LANDING AT SCHOENEFELD (IN ADDITION TO CREATING DIFFICULT LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS) WOULD PROVIDE A HIGHLY UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT FOR U.S. CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS WHO UNTIL NOW HAVE VISITED EAST BERLIN IN AN UNOFFICIAL AND PERSONAL CAPACITY.

2. FROM OUR READING OF EAST GERMAN MOTIVES TOWARD CONGRESSIONAL VISITORS, IT IS DISTINCTLY POSSIBLE THAT GDR AUTHORITIES WOULD REQUEST "OFFICIAL" MEETINGS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE CODEL AND MEMBERS OF THE GDR'S VOLKSHAMMER, SHOULD THE O'NEILL PARTY DEPART HERE. WE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID THIS POSSIBILITY.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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